

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Divisional Under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)  
Application of: Castro et al.

Prior Application Serial No.: 10/175,126

Prior Filing Date: June 19, 2002

Prior Group Art Unit: 1625

Examiner: Binta M. Robinson

For: ALKYL ESTERS OF 3-(3,4-DIHALOPHENYL)-2,6-DIOXOPIPERIDINE-3-PROPIONIC ACID OF USE AS INTERMEDIATES

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10**

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Signature *Gerardine Ashe*

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the specification:

On page 1, following the title and before line 1, please insert the following cross reference to related application information:

**Cross Reference to Related Applications**

This application is a divisional of prior copending application Serial No. 10/175,126 filed June 19, 2002, which in turn is a divisional of prior copending application Serial No. 09/857,882, filed June 12, 2001, which in turn is a 35 U.S.C. §371 application of PCT International application No. PCT/FR99/02970, filed December 1, 1999, which in turn claims priority from French application No. 98/16087, filed December 18, 1998.

After the claims, please insert the following Abstract as new page 30 (a copy of which is enclosed herewith for the examiner's convenience).

**ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to lower-alkyl esters of 3-(3,4-dihalophenyl)-2,6-dioxopiperidine-3-propionic acid derivatives, and to processes for preparing the same.